
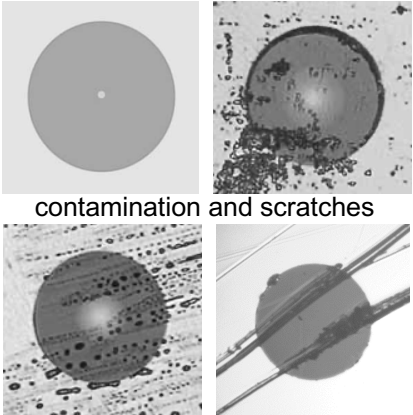


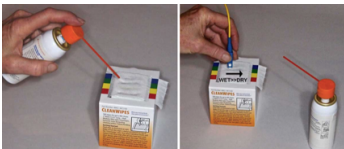




## Inspection and Cleaning of Fiber Optic Connectors

<p>This standard covers the inspection of fiber optic connectors with a microscope and cleaning the connectors.</p>	
<p><b>Equipment Needed</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Microscope designed for inspecting fiber optic connectors with proper connector adapters</li> <li>2. Microscope should have magnification 100-400X and proper illumination for ferrule end surface</li> <li>3. Optical microscopes should have IR filter for eye protection</li> <li>4. Video microscopes should have ability to record images and some may have ability to analyze connector condition to standards.</li> </ol>	<p>Optical and video microscopes</p> 
<p><b>Inspection Procedure</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Remove protective cap from connector and insert in microscope port</li> <li>2. Adjust focus until the connector end face is sharp</li> <li>3. Look for dirt, contamination, scratches or any other problem that may affect connection loss.</li> <li>4. Determine if connector is clean or needs cleaning before connecting</li> <li>5. Protective caps for connectors may contain dirt- inspect and clean before connection, do not replace cap and expect connector to remain clean.</li> <li>6. Clean both connectors when mating – a dirty connector may contaminate a clean connector when mated.</li> <li>7. Clean receptacles or mating adapters as required.</li> </ol>	<p>Connectors clean, with dirt</p>  <p>contamination and scratches</p>
<p><b>Cleaning Procedures</b></p> <p>Connectors can be cleaned using 3 methods:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Wet – using damp lint-free wipe with cleaning solution intended for the purpose</li> <li>2. Dry – using special dry tape cleaners</li> <li>3. Wet/Dry – wipe connector with damp lint-free wipe with cleaning solution then dry with lint-free wipe</li> <li>4. Use products specifically intended for cleaning fiber optic connectors as others may not be effective at cleaning or may harm connectors</li> <li>5. Inspect after cleaning to ensure proper cleaning.</li> <li>6. Reclean and inspect as necessary until the connector is acceptable.</li> </ol>	<p>Wet</p>  <p>Dry</p>  <p>Wet/Dry</p> 
<p><b>Documentation</b></p> <p>Record the date of the test, operator, equipment used, method used, cable and fiber identification</p> <p>See FOA Guide Reference (QR Code) for more details.</p>	